

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet includes changes to Fig. 1-3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1-3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1-3, subject to approval of Examiner. The replacement drawing sheet includes the following changes: in the formula box under Fig. 2, the last equation in line has been removed. Fig. 3 has been slightly enlarged for more clarity. No new matter has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the novel features of applicant's invention, in particular that the conduit is formed by a coil with the conduit diameter being greater than the diameter of the coil helix. No new matter is included and this is supported by the disclosure in the application as filed. Claim 15 has been made to depend upon claim 1.

The Examiner has restricted the claims to Group I for the apparatus including Claim 1 and 14-15 and Group II including claims 16-21 drawn to a method, now cancelled, without prejudice and with the reservation of applicant's right to file a divisional application.

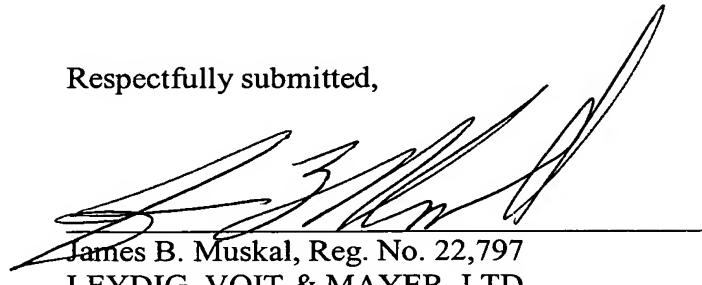
Claims 1, 14, and 15 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Reed (USP 249,547) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Reed is concerned with the compressibility of a pipe or conduit to allow for expansion or contraction of water, gas or steam in boilers. There is nothing in Reed to teach or suggest a large diameter conduit for flowing slurry fluids and having an internal configuration that provides static mixing with transportation of such fluid slurries such that the transported fluids maintain particles in suspension.

It is believed that the claims now do more adequately define applicant's invention and patentably distinguish over the references of record whether taken singly or combined. Also, the claims as amended clearly avoid any obviousness-type double patenting over applicants' U.S. Patent 6,896,007. In the event that the Examiner may disagree with this analysis, Applicant is prepared to enter a terminal disclaimer should it be required.

Conclusion

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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